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# AMAA News

THE ARMENIAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.  
140 FOREST AVENUE, PARAMUS, NEW JERSEY 07652

Editor Dr. G. H. Choupourian

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140

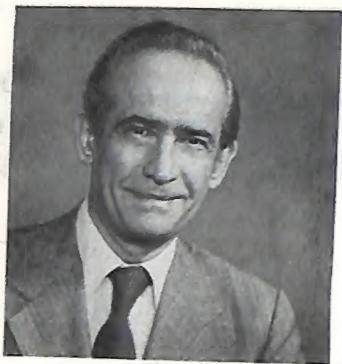


ALEX MANOOGIAN

(For acknowledgment of a princely gift by Mr. Alex Manoogian to Evangelical Schools in Lebanon, see Armenian section p. 11)

## WORLD HUNGER AND OUR SHARE

—G.H. Chopourian



G.H. Chopourian

Charity begins at home is a dangerous phrase if it means only that we should nurture our own immediate family needs. We are pilgrims in this small world and every event affects everyone else. Do we have a responsibility to meet world hunger needs or to shelter the growing world population of refugees? It is for each individual to determine the answer to that question. Here's the picture presented in the world hunger situation:

—In 1970 the world population of children under fifteen was estimated at 1.3 billion. Of these, 75% lived in countries with per capita incomes of less than \$500, and the majority (55%) lived in those countries with per capita incomes of less than \$100.

—In a 1973 study by the Pan American Health Organization, nutritional deficiencies and premature births were associated with 57% of all child deaths in the fifteen regions investigated. The enormity of this tragedy is magnified in a world where two-thirds of the total deaths in poor countries occur among children under five.

The equation is more complex than that: the young body weakened by lack of food more frequently falls prey to disease and parasites. For good reason, this is called Kwashiorkor—"the child who is deposed from the mother's breast by the next sibling." An infant not sustained by human milk suffers not only from the loss of this high quality food but also from the lack of protection afforded by the maternal antibodies. Without immunological protection from breast milk, the child is vulnerable to the host of infections present in the environment. When inadequate or contaminated foods are introduced, the result is often disease and death.

—Ronald J. Snider, in his book, *Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger*, indicates that one billion people have stunted bodies or damaged brains because of inadequate food. That is one-fourth of the world's population.

Iracema Da Dalva, a resident of a slum in Brazil, is quoted:

*"Sometimes I think, 'If I die, I won't have to see my children suffering as they are.' Sometimes I even think of killing myself. So often I see them crying, hungry; and there I am, without a cent to buy them some bread. I think, 'My God, I can't face it! I'll end my life. I don't want to look anymore!"'*

—The world has about 800 million "absolute poor," says the *World Bank*, 770 million of them in developing countries. About 630 million live in the world's poorest countries—\$250 or less per capita income—and constitute 52% of their collective population. About two-thirds of the absolute poor live in four countries—Bangladesh, India, Indonesia and Pakistan. *Absolute poverty*, the bank says, means a condition of life so characterized by malnutrition, illiteracy, disease, squalor, high infant mortality and low life expectancy as to be beneath any reasonable definition of human decency.

—The problem is multiplied by the 10 million homeless refugees, the greatest exodus of refugees in modern history, who have spilled over international borders all over the globe. They have been uprooted by gunfire and revolution, shifting ideologies and changing maps, nationalism and racism and other follies. And where they land they are often unwanted. I must have been four when I sensed the awesomeness of being unwanted. My parents were in a cattleboat pleading for permission to land and the authorities refused. The agony on my parents' wan, pale frightened faces haunts me till this day.

The bulk of the 10 million refugees listed in millions are:

Central and Latin America	.17	Southeastern Asia	1.50
Horn of Africa	1.00	Middle East	2.65
South Africa	1.40		

## LOVE CONQUERS REVENGE : The Story of My Uncle Roupen

—G.H.C.

My uncle Roupen, past 80, entered into his eternal rest on July 5, 1979. He had a stormy life as a youth; and in his adult life he had to adjust to a new country, language and mores. He did a good job of adjustment too. He raised a fine family of four children, prospered financially and according to the latest news in AGBU's HOOSHAR, made a substantial gift to the AGBU in Larnaca.

Like many an Armenian, he was forced out of his home in Adana with his large family of ten and walked the tortuous heated sands of the desert on to Der Zor. Fate separated him from his family and he developed ingenious ways of keeping himself alive. With tattered clothes, shoeless feet bleeding from cuts from walking over mountains and rocks, he fought to survive and rejoin his family, the Kalaydjians. One very important event in his life demonstrates love can prevail over vengeance.

He was caught by a Turkish captain and his lieutenant. Strangely the two hassled over his existence: what to do with him. The captain raised his gun to shoot down Roupen, but the lieutenant objected vehemently, saying to his superior, "Leave the young fellow alone. Why shed unnecessary blood. Let him go his way." The captain insisted, and for 15 minutes they argued heatedly, in fact to the point of hurting each other, when finally the captain turned the butt of the gun, hit Roupen over the head and the two sped away leaving him half dead.

November 11, 1918—The end of World War I. The British control Cilician Turkey. As the news reached the survivors, weakened and tired blood was revived. They tottered back home, fired by the dream of tasting once again the grapes, plums, cherries, apricots and figs that graced their ranches and vineyards. Many returned on foot, some by trains, carts or by whatever means they could find. Finally, the Kalaydjian Family had a reunion when they reestablished their candy manufacturing business. Roupen failed to forget the insults, the injuries and the murders. He joined a band of Armenians whose clear-cut purpose was to take vengeance upon those who had perpetrated such evil and malice upon a peaceful and faithful people. The band met nightly in the back rooms of the candy manufacturing plant and planned evening assaults upon villages. Indiscriminately, they herded the

males in each family in the village and dumped them in their own water wells—after shooting them, of course. Such was the spirit of revenge among those who survived! Nothing could prevail upon the youthful generation—the pleading of top leaders, church leaders, organizations. They acted independently, only some of the bands by instruction from parties.

As life became more normal in the great city, Turkish citizens began to purchase from Armenian businesses. One day, a man came into the candy store and wanted to buy wholesale goods for his business a day's journey from Adana. He shared his fears with Roupen, who was at the counter. The Turkish fellow explained how he had been very sympathetic to the needs of the Armenians during the period of the catastrophe. He named by name families that he had helped prevent from death. Then, in a miraculously strange manner, he related the incident in which he had fought with his captain, he the lieutenant, to preserve the life of an Armenian youth whom the captain wanted to annihilate. Roupen was flabbergasted. He saw in him his savior. He made further inquiries and checked every detail of that incident when the three were in the heart of the desert. The Turk, fearful of the lateness of the day, asked that he be given asylum in the store for the night so that he might be on his journey the next day. Roupen, realizing a golden opportunity to finish up another Turk, began to tremble. The inner conflict was strong. Finally, he went back to the band in the back of the store, related the story and in a moment of compassion said that this man must not be hurt. The band looked at him unbelievably, said he was becoming soft, ridiculed him and told him this was a good opportunity to do unto others as they had been done to. Roupen said, "You touch him only over my dead body." The fight over, the Turk was left to sleep overnight and went on his journey the next day.

It is indeed strange that revenge and vengeance have their counterpart, love, which is the stronger emotion. Love ultimately conquers revenge, especially when it is "life for life." The moral of the story: *Be Good Unto Others. Love Thy Neighbor as Thyself.*

### The Inspirational Corner

#### WHAT ARISTOTLE SAYS ON GIVING

"To give away money is an easy matter, and in any man's power. But to decide to whom to give it and how large and when And for what purpose and how, is neither in every man's power—Nor an easy matter. Hence it is that such excellence is rare, Praiseworthy and noble."

—Aristotle

#### WHAT A CHRISTIAN SAYS ON GIVING

My giving may be more cosmetic than Christian.

*Giving is done noisily so it can be seen and heard. I give just enough to save face without serious loss of dollars. Both beauty and giving may be only skin deep.*

God must often be tried by my feeble trying. Love gives without let or measure.

I measure and forget to let go. Each day, God's gifts search me, test

me, and bless me. I stand debtor. How can I express thanks to One who gives "far more abundantly than all that we ask or think." (Ephesians 3:20)

God's love, like my telephone, urges a cheerful answer.  
MY RESPONSE IS MY STEWARDSHIP.

Yes, God knows I want to give. Better yet, God will know when I give, even as love does for the joy of giving.

James Lollis  
GOD GIVES YOU CAN



# SOCIAL EVENTS, TESTIMONIALS,

## DIRAN AND LYDIA MINASSIAN HOST BANQUET FOR AMAA STAFF, OFFICERS AND LEADERS

On June 8, 1979, the AMAA office staff, present and past officers, leaders and workers of the AMAA as well as some personal friends of Diran and Lydia Minassian, were the guests of the Minassians at a banquet held at the Imperial Manor in Paramus, N.J. The Minassians' purpose in hosting such a gathering was to say "thank you" to many who had worked for mission causes through the AMAA.

Lydia and the Reverend Diran Minassian, who were married on November 30, 1933, are both deeply rooted Evangelicals. Diran's great grandfather, who was born in 1820, son of one of the earliest converts to Protestantism, was a lay preacher and a prominent civic leader. Lydia, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Abraham Hartunian, is also a wife, mother and sister of ministers. They were and continue to be active innovators of Evangelical activities, among which the following should be listed:

- In his teens Diran served fervently as President of the Christian Endeavor Union in the San Joachin Valley;
- On returning to the East Coast in 1923, Diran became instrumental in the formation of the Christian Young People's Association in 1925 which in 1930 was reorganized into the Christian Endeavor with a deeper Christian emphasis;
- In 1949, Diran abandoned his thriving rug business, entered seminary, was ordained in 1953 in the Rutgers Presbyterian Church in which he had served as Assistant Pastor during his study years;
- Soon after his ordination, Diran served for two years as the first paid Executive Secretary of the Armenian Evangelical Union, East Coast, at the conclusion of which moved to California with his wife and their two sons, Donald and Roger;
- In California, while working in the real estate business in Santa Barbara, he also shepherded the first Armenian Congregational Church in the Valley for several years and on retirement from business in 1976, Diran organized the Armenian Evangelical Fellowship in San Diego where he had relocated.

Diran and Lydia are happy in their retirement living near their younger son Roger, who is the pastor of the East San Diego Presbyterian Church in San Diego, and his wife and two sons. Their older son Donald, who with his wife and two daughters live in Indianapolis, is a Doctor of Mathematics and Professor at Butler University as well as a C.P.A. in an accounting firm.

Today, Diran is still a "man on the move" visiting Armenian Evangelical Churches throughout the world, filling a pulpit when necessary and rekindling friendships. His zest for living, love for God and his fellowmen make him the unique individual he is.

The evening ended with a surprise when the host and hostess were "hosted" with a plaque of gratefulness and a corsage for Lydia for putting up with Diran for forty-six years.



*The President of the AMAA, Mr. Sam Hekemian (center), presented Diran and Lydia a plaque of appreciation*

## TESTIMONIAL BANQUET HONORS REV. LEON TAVITIAN

A special Testimonial Banquet was given in honor of Rev. Leon Tavitian on June 17, 1979 on his departure from his pastoral duties at the Armenian Congregational Church of Providence, R.I. A notable list of speakers, including two priests of the Armenian Church, a rabbi, the mayor, the Catholic Bishop of Providence, the Postmaster and representatives of Armenian Evangelical youth took part in the well-planned program organized by the Church with the AMAA represented by Dr. G.H. Chopourian.

The Rev. Tavitian, who is presently a doctoral candidate at Andover Newton Theological Seminary, has a B.A. from Roger Williams College, a B.D. from Crozer Theological Seminary and M.Th. from Colgate Rochester Seminary.

He started his studies in 1959, and was ordained in February, 1968 at the request of the Armenian Evangelical Church of New York under the auspices of the New York Metropolitan Association of the United Church of Christ. In addition to the Armenian Congregational Church in Providence, Rev. Tavitian has served the Presbyterian Church in West New York, N.J., Methodist Churches in Port Elizabeth, N.J. and the German Reformed Church, Haverford, Pa.



*The Rev. Leon Tavitian*

Despite his busy pastoral career, Rev. Tavitian has always involved himself in many charitable works, organizations, and most specifically in youth groups whose members have learned to call him "Uncle Leo."

*(Contd. on p. 5, col. 3)*

# TRIBUTES, RECOGNITIONS AND SERVICES

## SHE WALKS IN BEAUTY A TRIBUTE TO HRANOUSH CASPARIAN

At the Annual Banquet on the occasion of the 83rd Anniversary of the Armenian Evangelical Church of New York, Mrs. Hranoush Casparian was honored. The Pastor's, Rev. Zenas Ilanjian's, tribute was published in the Church's "Tertig". His, "She Walks in Beauty," a fitting title borrowed from Lord Byron, depicts Mrs. Casparian as a very noble person of the highest caliber touching many lives over the decades. He finds in her person the sure promise of solace, sustenance, protection, material help, guidance and bright prospects.

At the Banquet, Mr. Steven Mardigian delivered an oral tribute to Mrs. Casparian which we quote in part:

*"Knowing Mrs. Casparian since 1935, I feel qualified to state that I have profound admiration for her accomplishments, great respect for her capabilities and Christian spirit and devotion. The Christian spirit was instilled in her by her maternal grandmother and I quote Mrs. Casparian's words: 'who taught me about prayer and I learned about the presence of God at her knee, and next in my youth, my father's prayers during our exile to Konya influenced and strengthened my beliefs.'*

*"Mrs. Casparian, who was born in Izmit, the younger daughter of Azad and Parouhi Momjian Azarian, was exiled with her family and spent 4 years in and around Konya helped by American missionaries. During this time, her father fell victim to the massacres. After they returned home, she went to Istanbul to study pharmacology and worked for the Near East Relief. With the help of uncles living in the States, she arrived at Ellis Island in March, 1921 and married Hrant Casparian in December, 1922.*

*"Her list of accomplishments are many over the years. She has been active in our Church for over 40 years, having served on many Boards, Committees, and the Ladies Aid Society. In 1951, she was elected Honorary Mother of the Church. Taking this title seriously, Mrs. Casparian made visitations to old age homes, hospitals and shut-ins. Soon the idea of an Armenian old age home was born, and with a group of Church ladies they started soliciting funds which enabled them to purchase their first Home. Since then, Mrs. Casparian has been actively involved in every area of the Home.*

*"Because of her gratitude to American missionaries she also became involved with the AMAA, serving on the Board of Directors and volunteering time in the office work. She has always tried to help Armenian immigrants in every way possible and provided multifarious services in this area.*

*"It is quite obvious that the recipients of her munificence are legion, the majority Armenians of all creeds and political persuasion; it is enough that they are Armenian and in need. Rewards she does not seek, for her motto is 'tis better to give than to receive' and her favorite hymn is 'Take my Life and Let it Be, Consecrated Lord to Thee.'"*



*Mrs. Hranoush Casparian*

## MUSIC TEACHER OFFERS LECTURES ON ARMENIAN HISTORY, LITERATURE

Mrs. Dicran (Armine) Serijanian of Grand Rapids, Michigan was the guest speaker of the Women's Fellowship of Mayflower Congregational Church on March 19. She presented a historical review of Armenian literature in perspective covering the first through the fifth centuries based on THE GOLDEN AGE OF ARMENIAN LITERATURE BY Rev. A.A. Bedikian, THE HISTORY OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH by Williston Walker and other Armenian historical works by prominent writers.

She will be presenting this review again at Calvin College and in ladies' clubs in April and May.



Mrs. Serijanian, who has taught music for the past 20 years, describes herself as "a music teacher who has fallen in love with Armenian history."

"I have come to the conclusion that if we do not emphasize to our people that we, Armenians, have a mission in this world and review our dear past history to them we will not be able to perpetuate our identity as a nation, and our rich culture," she says.

Rev. Tavitian and his wife Louise have raised a family of three exemplary children who have been a credit to their church, their parents and to themselves. Mark is a psychiatric worker at Butler Hospital, Julia is planning a career in nursing and Lucy is in jr. high school.

We wish Rev. Tavitian and his family the very best that God has to offer in the days to come.

*(Contd. from p. 4, col. 3)*

# Armenian Missionary Association Child Education Committee

Dear Friend:

Whether you have been a faithful contributor to the Child Education Program of the AMAA or not you have no doubt been disturbed by the turmoil in the Middle East and wonder about its effect on the educational programs in our schools in Lebanon.

You will be happy to learn that despite damage sustained to fine schools during the wanton destruction in Beirut, all of the schools are in session and will fulfill the year's requisites. More importantly, the teaching staffs of the schools are intact. The staffs were given small amounts of aid during a two-month period of suspension of school work so as not to be forced to seek employment elsewhere.

During the past few years several drives have been initiated to help our unfortunate brethren in Lebanon. These monies were and are desperately needed to provide food, medicine and reconstruct shelters; however, none of these funds are available for the administration of our schools. If it were not for your faithful support of our program, the future would indeed be bleak for many children. The relief programs are providing temporary aid to our people, but we must also provide the means to insure their economic future and perpetuate their Armenian heritage. Our schools will help them develop spiritual strength to cope with these turbulent times.

**CUT OUT AND MAIL TO: 140 FOREST AVENUE, PARAMUS, N.J. 07652**

(For SPONSORS who may wish to pick-up NEW RATES or for those who may want to become SPONSORS)

I am a SPONSOR and support \_\_\_\_\_ Elementary  
(number) \_\_\_\_\_ High School and \_\_\_\_\_ Istanbul Youth  
(number) \_\_\_\_\_ Home student(s) at the rate(s) of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Elem),  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ (H.S.), and \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (I.Y.H.)  
You may increase my contribution for academic year 1979-1980 as follows:

\_\_\_\_\_ Elementary Student(s) @ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(number)  
\_\_\_\_\_ High School Student(s) @ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(number)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Istanbul Youth Home Child  
(number) @ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## NEW SPONSORS

Please include me in your continuing Child Education SPONSORSHIP Program and bill me as follows:

\_\_\_\_\_ Elementary Student(s) each @\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(number)  
\_\_\_\_\_ High School Student(s) each @\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(number)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Istanbul Youth Home Child(ren) each @\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(number)

## TIME TO INVEST IN UNLIMITED DIVIDENDS

Schools are beginning registration. This is the time to consider investing in children's lives. You can have unlimited benefit by investing in the future well-being of young lives—IN THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OF YOUTH.

There is no way ever to measure the full impact of this kind of investment. Come alive, invest in something fundamentally VALUABLE.

For many Armenian youngsters living in the Middle-East today, an education is not only essential for their growth, but also for the continuation of their Armenian Heritage. Their lives have been a nightmare, living with fear, death, and occasionally hunger.



*For he who shares with his people  
Their sorrow and agony will feel a  
Supreme comfort created only by  
Suffering in sacrifice. And he will  
Be at peace with himself when he dies  
Innocent with his fellow innocents.  
(Kahlil Gibran)*



## THE NEED IS URGENT! YOU MAY HELP BY INVESTING JUST:

\$75 to help educate an Elementary child  
\$100 to help a High School child.  
\$300 for Board, Lodging and Schooling at the  
Istanbul Youth Home.

By calling us for information in the event  
you wish to pay for the full yearly tuition of  
a child.  
(201) 265 - 2607 or 2608

## INVEST TODAY!

Fill in the coupon below and mail it to: ARMENIAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.,  
140 Forest Avenue, Paramus, N.J. 07652.

(The A.M.A.A., founded in 1918, has been in the forefront of service for 60 years. Contributions are tax deductible).

I wish to sponsor the tuition of a:	
<input type="checkbox"/> boy	<input type="checkbox"/> girl in
<input type="checkbox"/> Elementary School at \$75 a year	
<input type="checkbox"/> High School at \$100 a year	
<input type="checkbox"/> Istanbul Youth Home \$300 a year	
<input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed is my payment	
<input type="checkbox"/> Please bill me	
<input type="checkbox"/> Please send me information on full tuition support	
<input type="checkbox"/> Please send more information	

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

Trusting in God, and for His sake, I would like to participate in the "salvaging" of Armenian children in the Interior of Turkey, as follows (check one square):

- Sponsor a child for one year at \$300 for the year.
- Sponsor 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 (circle number desired) children on a continuing basis at \$300 a year each.
- Sponsor the project with a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to the Armenian Missionary Association of America for tax exemption, and mail to:  
AMAA, 140 Forest Avenue, Paramus, N.J. 07652

## THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORTS

*This time the Executive Director's Report will consist chiefly of correspondence, ideas, projects and needs that have been brought to his attention through the daily mail.*

### HIS GREATEST PURCHASE

John Wanamaker started working at the age of eleven as a laborer in his father's brickyard. In later years he became a wealthy merchant!

*"I have made purchases costing millions of dollars" he testified, "but my greatest purchase was made when I was a country boy eleven years old. Then I bought a small, red-leather Bible for \$2.75. I paid for the Bible week by week as I earned the money.*

*"That little red Bible has counted far more than anything else in my life. It was the greatest and most important and far-reaching purchase I ever made; and every other investment in my life seems to me only secondary."*

Sunday School Times

### THE FOUNDING AND FUNDING OF HAIGAZIAN COLLEGE

(A Statement by Stephen Philibosian)

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph (Joyce Philibosian) Stein, Jr. and family moved to California recently. In the process of packing for the move from Pennsylvania to California, Mrs. Stein came across many things which she felt should be directed to the AMAA office. Among the items sent was a statement of her late father, Stephen Philibosian, on Haigazian College entitled, "Founding and Funding of Haigazian College."

Mr. Philibosian, having mastered the art of philanthropy, made it his passion to provide Armenian children a sound education with basic Christian orientation. His advice, friendship and willingness to help financially had a very important role in the establishment of Haigazian College. His STEPHEN PHILIBOSIAN FOUNDATION today continues to provide about \$25,000 yearly for scholarships to Armenian students at the college. Mr. Philibosian was actively in the roster of people who have made Haigazian College. His own statement testifies to that:

"Every substantial gift to the endowment fund has an interesting story. To write it in detail would fill a book. For example, a friend of mine with modest means, whom I entertained in Acapul-

co several years ago, passed away two years ago and left about \$15,000 to the endowment fund. It is very difficult for me to write about them in detail. In many ways I have tried and have been instrumental in the growth of the AMAA.

"For example Haigazian College. Mr. Mehagian came through my constant contact with him and Mrs. Mehagian. They agreed to donate \$25,000 at \$5,000 a year for five years. But to implement it was a tremendous job. To find a suitable building in Beyrouth, to find a man to take charge, and to collect money to run the College were all up in the air.

"Believe me, it was not easy to plan and carry out the details required. I worked hard. I was instrumental in buying the present Haigazian College property from the American Congregational Board at the unusually low price of \$25,000 on a time payment basis of \$5,000 a year. Mr. Mehagian's pledge of \$25,000 to be paid in five years took care of this.

"Then came finding a suitable man. We found him by the suggestion of some friends. The Mehagians and I called on Rev. Markarian. You know the rest.

"A couple of years later the AMAA took it over and ran it for awhile with a deficit. Then I was asked to take it over and select my own members of the Board of Trustees. This appealed to me. We agreed upon a Board of Trustees which was most cooperative and whose help I value tremendously. I must say even though most of the work was on my shoulders my colleagues were most helpful at all times during this ordeal. The Trustees supplied funds to the College, not only for running it but also to erect a nice large building."

### YEREVAN CHURCH ORDAINS YOUNG PASTOR

According to a press release, the Rev. Youry Avanessian, born in Karabagh in 1948, was ordained to shepherd the Yerevan Church.

The Rev. Haroutune Helvadjian of Marseille, ordainer, and seven other ministers laid hands upon Youry in the presence of representatives from the Armenian Government.

### AMAA IN PANPERE

Under the pen of the Reverend Avak K. Avakian, a long article appeared in Panpere entitled, "The Armenian Missionary Association of America." The article provides the history of the founding and growth of the Association and states that the AMAA is one of the singular and fruitful events in Armenian Evangelical history. He raises an important point as follows: "It was incumbent upon the communities receiving financial help from the AMAA that in their turn they should have provided help to the Association in larger measure. Despite this lack, the AMAA became the guardian angel for our educational, spiritual and benevolent projects. Without its participation, our activities would have been limited and weak."

### NEEDED: ARMENIAN LEADERS

The Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian, under the above title, has given a clarion call for sound and able leadership in the Armenian world. He argues that people are not driven to their national heritage, but are drawn to it—drawn by leaders who win hearts by the sacred contagion of their own lives.

"What our community needs more sorely," he argues, "are Armenian leaders who will not only bring tribute of excellence to the common treasury of Armenianism, but also will inspire the new generations by the example of their own lives."

### CORRECTION

In the April, 1979 issue of the AMAA NEWS we reported on Mrs. Nevert Janbazian's being honored at a surprise birthday party in Pasadena, Calif. at which it was requested by the family that in lieu of gifts donations be made to the AMAA. We inadvertently omitted listing Mrs. Janbazian's daughter, Mrs. Marguerite Sheets of San Clemente who was the correspondent, and in listing her other daughter, Mrs. Evelyn R. Pease, we inadvertently listed her residence in New Jersey rather than San Diego. We are sorry for the double error.

### 60TH ANNIVERSARY PLEDGES (Additions to Previous Pledges Reported)

#### TEXAS

Mr. Richard Aijian	\$3,000.00
CALIFORNIA	
Anonymous	400.00

### A BEAUTIFUL SURPRISE

Adroushan K. Armenian, one of the many recipients of a loan grant from the Scholarship Committee of the Association, has returned his loan soon after finding employment. He writes: "Dear Rev. Chopourian: Please find enclosed a check for \$500 as a payment of the \$500 loan that I received from the AMAA during my studies at Northeastern University in 1977-78. I have finished my studies and currently employed with Proctor & Gamble International and stationed in England... Once again, my thanks for the loan." Good. Now we can recycle the money!

### HAIGAZIAN COLLEGE AUXILIARY SURPRISE

In a surprise move, the Women's Auxiliary of Haigazian College on the East Coast presented a check for \$2,000 to Dr. John J. Markarian, President of Haigazian College, who was being honored at a dinner on June 6, 1979 at the Armenian Evangelical Church of New York.

### COMARES

A telegram from COMARES to which the AMAA assigned \$50,000 through gifts of individuals and associations like the Armenian National Sanatorium gave the following news as of June 20, 1979:

"REJOICE IN ANNOUNCING THAT SO FAR WE HAVE COMPLETED REPAIRS OF 1,100 DAMAGED HOUSES. 450 REMAIN IN IMMEDIATE AND URGENT NEED. PLEASE KINDLY TRANSFER ANY FUNDS COLLECTED SO FAR. THANKS. BEST WISHES."

COMARES is a united committee with representatives from all sectors of Lebanon Armenians which is working for the upbuilding of lives in the community.

### ISTANBUL YOUTH HOME

Hrant Guzelyan, Director of the Istanbul Youth Home, reports some bad news. WAKF, the national religious foundation in Turkey, has taken the Church to court to expropriate two properties that were obtained after 1936 at which date there was a heretofore unpublished law that churches may not add to their inventory assets by purchase or through bequests. Similar actions have been taken against one or two properties of the Armenian

Patriarchate and five properties of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate. Prayers of Christians are requested that justice for elementary rights may be done. Hrant lists another difficulty. For a child to go to an Armenian school, the father must go with his child to the Educational Department in Istanbul and show proof of vital statistics and of the child being an Armenian to be enrolled. During these days, Armenians come from the interior as families, with the children needing nourishment, supervision, encouragement. The Istanbul Youth Home receives children

of such parents in the early afternoon after school is dismissed, supervises their studies for three hours under the care of four teachers, provides an evening meal, and in the summer about 75 needy children are lodged at Camp Armen, Touzla, 40 kilometers from Istanbul. Here they receive adequate nourishment of body, soul and character.

Hrant has enclosed a picture of young people who have come out of the Istanbul Youth Home training, who, Hrant says, "mart yeghan."



Left to right: Hrant Guzelyan, Heusni Guel, Hrant Dink, Tashken Barsamoglu, Artoon Ashuk, Puzant Goekdash, Krikor Yeldurum, Sahag Atakulian, Melkiset Segman. Kneeling, Zakar Karakutuk, Garabed Eoringoz, Hovhannes Tejer, Varoujan Kaldulu, (Vartan Yeldurum still in school). They are all former children of the Home out of whom four are in Holland or France while the others are considering similar action. All of these children came to the Home, received training and "mart yeghan."

### URGENT FINANCIAL NEEDS

#### PUBLIC SUPPORT BEING SOUGHT

My check or money order for \$\_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed for project(s) listed below:

FOR:

Relief to Armenians in Lebanon	\$_____
Needs of Haigazian College	\$_____
Istanbul Youth Home	\$_____
Elementary and High School Children	\$_____
Lunch and Camp Programs for Children	\$_____
The Children's Evangelism Work in Tehran	\$_____
Support of Deficits of Lebanon Churches	\$_____
Needs of the Armenian Evang. Social Service Center in Los Angeles	\$_____

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to the Armenian Missionary Association of America for tax exemption, and mail to: 140 Forest Avenue, Paramus N.J. 07652.



Ասմեակներու ընթացքին, տարած ու կանոնադրութիւն ստացաւ հայկական կեանքն ու կառոյցը՝ Եկեղեցներով, դպրոցներով, աշխատանոցներով, բազում հաստատութիւններով և շբել թանկարաններով։ Եթէ կրցանք այս տեսանելի շինուածքներն ենքս կերտել հայ անհատը, օժուել՝ ոչ միայն գիտութեամբ, այլ նաև ազգային գիտակցութեամբ և հոգեկան սպառագիտումով, այս եղան մեր շաբի։ Մարդ պատրաստելը կը կարուի ժամանակի, համբուրութեամ, զոհողութեամ և կազմակերպուած աշխատանքի։

Անս հնա է կարենոր դեռ Հայ Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութեամ, որ Սասունց կողմէ հաստատուած միջոց մըն է փրկարար, Շեցով՝ հայ Եկեղեցին, հայ դպրոցին, հայ հոգեւորականին, հայ ուսուցչին, հայ ուսանողին, ծերուանին, որին, անկեալին, և այն ամենուն որոնք կ'ուգեն ապրի իմաստադրուած կեանքը, նուիրումի և ընդունելի կեանքը։ Մենք միշտ փառուեցինք բարձրորակ այդ կեանքը, նոյնիսկ երեք հազարամեկներու ընթացքին կրկնուած գողգոթաներու նամբով, անկի գունուրուած, անկի եռանդատրուած, առաել կեանքի տեսիլութեամբ ու ապրուով ներշնչուած։ Խաչելութեամբ չխաւարեցաւ մեր կեանքը, սուր չսպառեց մեզ։ հալածքը չեկանեց մեր հաստաքը. դժուարութիւններ չկառուցուին մեր վազքը։ Մենք ապրեցանք ու պիտի ապրինք, որքան առեն որ տոկուն հաստաքը կանգուն կը պահենք մեր հաստատութիւնները։

Ինձի համար Աւետարանչական հոգեկան բաւարարութիւն է, ցարդ կատարած իր դերով և ապագայի հեռանկարով։ Աւետարանչական ծնննա տաւ 1918ին, Ուստի մէջ. սակայն 50 տարիներ, նի Եորքի Հայ Աւետարանչական Եկեղեցին եղաւ անոր պահպան իրեշտակը։ Այս Եկեղեցին անդամներն ու պաշտօնաները սնուցին ու մեծոցին զամն, մինչեւ որ Կազմակերպութիւնը հասաւ այսօրուան պատկանելի դիրքին։ Աւետարանչական՝ իր եռանդուն մատակարարումով՝ միջոց կը դառնայ պատրաստելու վաղուան խոստարու ու նկարագրու լծուած ազգին ծառայութեամ։

Օրինակ ըլլայ պատուական այս Ընկերութիւնը Օրինակ ըլլայ իմաստուեցան Պէյրուսի հայկական թաղերը Հոյութիւնը կրեց հետեւեալ վնաս-



*John Kevishian*

այս գործին։ Արդար է յիշատակել վերապատուելիներ՝ Անդրամիկ Ս. Պետիկեանը, Նշան Պէկեանը, Բիզան Գաֆայեանը, Եղուարդ Թովմանանը ու Կիրակոս Զօփուրեանը։

Սիրենք Աւետարանչականը. տաճք մեր սրտարուի նույները լայն չափով, որ մեր ծառայութիւնը նոյն չափով հասն ծովելին անիին՝ մեր արենակիցներուն, որոնց ներկայ պէտքերը մեզ կը խոռվեն։ Մեծամոջի բարեւարուներ՝ նման Սրիփը և Ռութ Փիլիպոսեաններուն, Տոքը. Յակոր Հէքիմեանի, Սէմ Հէքիմեանի և զարկեանի՝ Պապի և Սէմի, Կարապետ Քէօննէլեանի և որդի՝ Տոքը Շամ Քէօննէլեանի, Հէրի Գոլմեանի, Հարպիկ Շէքրմեանի, Սէթ և Ալպէր Մոմեաններու և շատերու, մեծ թափ սուին Ընկերութեամ և Անշնչեցին շատերը, որոնց կարգին՝ այս տողերը գորով։

Այս առջին, կ'ուգեն յայտնել երեք փափար.

(1) ստեղծել Հայ Աւետարանչական մամով, (2) կառուցանել Հայ Աւետարանչական Եկեղեցի մը Երեւանի մէջ և (3) կառուցանել նի Եորքի Հայ Աւետարանչական Եկեղեցի յարմար վայրի մը մէջ։ Վ'աղօթեմ որ իրականան այս իդեարու։

(Խօսուած՝ նի Եորքի Հայ Աւետարանչական Եկեղեցու բնմէն՝ 18 Մարտ 1979ին) ԾԱՆ ՔԷՑԻՇԵԱՆ

## ՊԵՅՐՈՒԹԻՒ ՀԱՅՈՒԹԵԱՆ ԿՐԱԾՎԱՆԵՐԸ

1978ի Հոկտեմբերին ծանրօրէն որմբակոնւեցան Պէյրուսի հայկական թաղերը Հայութիւնը կրեց հետեւեալ վնաս-

ներն ու կորուատները.-

- Աւելի քան 25 մետեալ և 300 վիրատը կան:
- 1200է աւելի տուներ քանդրուած են:
- Հարիւրատը տուներ, խանութներ և գործարաններ թալանուած են և աւելի քան 100,000 անգործներ կան:
- Մոտ 200,000,000 տոլարի վասա՞խանութներու, գործարաններու, դպարոցներու և որիշ հաստատութիւններու անդրման պատճառաւ:
- 28 դպրոցներ և 16 Եկեղեցներ անդրուած են:
- Աւելի քան 250 մանուկներ որբացած են. մտային խանգարումի զոր գացած են 700 անձներ. հազարարուներ կարու են դեղորայքի և բժշկական խնամքի:

ԱՍՈՆՔ ՄՈՍԱԽՈՐ ԹԻՒԵՐ ԵՆ: ԽՍԱԿԱՆ ՎԱՍԱԽԵՐԸ ԱԽԵԼԻ ԾԱՆՐ ԵՆ: ՀԵՏԵԽԱԲԱՆ, ՄԵՐ ՊԱՐՏԱԿԱՆ ՆՈՒԹԻՒԵՆ Է ՕԳՆԵԼ ԼԻԲԱՆԱՆԻ ՄԵՐ ԵՂԲԱՑՐԱՆԵՐՈՒՆ ԵԻ ՔՈՅԵՐ ՌՈՒՆ ԼԻԱԲՈՒՌՈՆ ԿԵՐՊՈՎ ԵԻ ԱՆՑԱՊԱՆ:

## ԳՈՀԱՐ ՄՏՔԵՐԸ

- Գացէք բոլոր ազգերը աշակերտեցէք ... և ահա ես ամեն օր ձեզի հետ եմ։

Յիսուս

- Այս Եկեղեցին որ միսիոնար չղրկեր, շատ չանցած առանց քարոզիչի պիտի մնայ:

Հիշոր

- Մի ընտեր ինչ որ շիտակ չէ, և մի խօսիր ինչ որ ճշմարիտ չէ:

Մարքը Ավրէլիյը

- Մարդու վարքն ու բարքը անխօս բարող են:

Էմիրէլ

- Ինչո՞ւ կ'ապրինք, չ'ո՞ր իրարու դժուարութիւնները նուազեցնելու և ցաները թեթեցնելու համար։

Ծորճ Էլիլը

# OBITUARIES

The AMAA Board of Directors extend their heartfelt condolences to the families of the deceased through the medium of the AMAA NEWS.

*Mr. Yervant Gulessarian Beirut, Lebanon	1978
*Mr. Aaron Weiner Providence, R.I.	Jan. 21, 1979
*Mr. Paul Tarpinian Pasadena, CA	Feb. 11, 1979
Mrs. Ovsanna Bedigian PA	Feb. 25, 1979
*Mrs. Annig Yessayan Oakland, CA	March 21, 1979
Mr. Martin A. Martin CA	April 1, 1979
Mr. Aram Mushegan CA	April 15, 1979
*Mrs. Beatrice Ketenjian CA	April 20, 1979
Mr. Garabed Yeghiayan Mrs. Marion Hall Benneyan Madison, CT	May, 1979
Mrs. Lurelle Botkin Pasadena, CA	May 6, 1979
Mrs. Rose Sarafian Upper Darby, PA	May 9, 1979
Mr. Ed. Kirishian Fresno, CA	May 21, 1979
Mr. Berge Bedrosian New Jersey	May 29, 1979
*Louise-Donabedian Cranston, R.I.	May 31, 1979
Miss Mariam Vartanian New Jersey	June 2, 1979
**Mrs. Sarah O. Geary Oakford, PA	June 3, 1979
Mr. Aram Keshishian Sound Beach, NY	June 4, 1979
*Mrs. Pearl Aaronian Cranston, R.I.	June 18, 1979
*Mrs. Araxy Najarian Avon Park, FL	June 28, 1979
—	July 15, 1979
—	July 22, 1979

\*Signifies that memorials were designated for AMAA.  
\*\*A Bequest.



**SARAH O. GEARY**

Sarah Odabashian Geary, the second eldest of three daughters born to Setrak and Elizabeth Odabashian, was born in Malatia, Turkey, on August 15, 1902 and entered her eternal rest on June 18, 1979.

When Sarah was about two years old, her father immigrated to the United States and six years later the remainder of the family, viz. Sarah, her older sister and Mrs. Odabashian followed him.

They lived in Philadelphia. Mr. Setrak Odabashian became one of the founders of the Holy Trinity Armenian Church. Sarah played the organ at Church for many years and was also very active in serving the Church in other ways.

In 1948, she married John Geary and together they moved to California, living there for twenty years until their return to Philadelphia in 1979. Several years later when her husband passed away, Sarah moved to Oakford, Pennsylvania to be near her sister, Mary Beckman.

Sarah was always a great believer in charity, and the welfare of the Armenians. She has assigned the balance of her estate in equal proportions to the Diocese of the Armenian Church and the Armenian Missionary Association of America.

The Board of Directors extend their sincere condolences to her surviving sister and brother-in-law Mary and Harry Beckman, and pray God will bless Sarah by giving her her inheritance of eternal life through Jesus Christ.

## AGNES HAIGOUEH MGRDITCHIAN

The Reverend Dr. Vahan Tootikian has forwarded in lieu of flowers donations to the AMAA in memory of a member of his Church and has given the following information:

The amount of \$96.25 represents donations in lieu of flowers in memory of Agnes Haigouhi Mgrditchian, beloved mother of Mrs. Robert (Hannah) Wider and Mrs. Kenneth (Karen)

Lipski and sister of Mrs. Mary Churukian, Robert Gureghian and the late Charles Gureghian. Mrs. Mgrditchian entered her rest on Wednesday, April 18, 1979. The funeral services were held at the Armenian Congregational Church on Saturday, April 21 with The Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Toohtikian officiating. The donation represents memorial donations made by relatives and friends and designated for the AMAA by members of the immediate family.

The Board of Directors share the sorrow of the immediate members of Mrs. Agnes Mgrditchian.



**DANIEL AKULLIAN**  
March 1, 1903 - March 19, 1979

Daniel Akullian was the youngest son of Charles and Mary Saradarian Akullian. His parents operated a grocery store and sheep ranch in Marash, Turkey, and as a young boy, he learned the family trade. He lost his mother at age six and became separated from his father during the deportations of 1915-1918. These tragic events forced the young Daniel into a precocious adulthood, imbuing him with a seriousness and a dedication to work that was to characterize his life.

With his father, Daniel Akullian, he immigrated to the United States in 1920 where they joined the older Akullian sons who had settled in the Albany-Troy, New York area. Daniel worked in his brothers' meat market until 1923, when he opened his own grocery store. Through his family, he met Santookht Kerikian, the daughter of the celebrated Zoravar Hovnan Pasha, Armenian patriot and military leader of Zeitoun. They were married in Troy. With his brother, Jack, who later joined him in partnership, he pioneered the supermarket business in the Albany area. At the time of his retirement in 1958, the Grand Cash Markets had grown to a chain of five stores with over 200 employees.

Throughout his business career and especially during the depression years,

Daniel Akullian was generous in aiding needy Armenians here and abroad, many of whom he helped to immigrate to this country, often giving them employment in his markets. Desperately short of managerial help during the war years, he worked doubly hard and sacrificed time with his own family in order to help the less fortunate in his spare hours.

As a long-time member and former trustee of the United Armenian Calvary Congregational Church of Troy, member and former Board member of the Armenian Missionary Association of America, member and past president of the Albany Chapter, Armenian General Benevolent Union of America, supporter of the Simonian-Avakian Veterans Post of Watervliet, and as the founding *sharabed* of the Troy Chapter, Knights of Vartan, Daniel Akullian expressed his deep commitment to the Armenian-American community, but much of his charitable concern was demonstrated in direct caring for persons who continually came to him for help. A man of few words, he served quietly and efficiently. Using his astute business sense and brilliant organizational abilities, he led the local Armenian community to a respected position and identity. He was the prime force in the establishment of the Albany-Troy area Federation of Armenians. Overcoming deep-rooted political and denominational divisions, in 1951, a picnic ground park was created for all Armenians on a beautiful 46 acre tract which Daniel Akullian had secured. In recent years, failing health obliged him to curtail his official participation in these organizations whose growth he had nurtured.

Daniel Akullian was a member of the Cyprus Shrine Temple of the Masonic Order and had achieved the rank of the 32nd Degree in the Ancient Temple Masonic Lodge of Albany, the members of which assisted in the private funeral held in Troy on March 23, 1979. He is survived by his wife, Santookht Akullian, Albany; three daughters, Mrs. Edmond (Grace) Nazarian, Loudonville; Mrs. Monroe (Helen) Bennett and Suzanne Akullian, both of New York City; a son, Daniel Akullian, Jr., New York City; two brothers, Jack Akullian, Albany, and Harry Akullian, Los Angeles; four grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Armenian General Bene-

volent Union of America, the United Armenian Calvary Congregational Church, Troy, or the Armenian Missionary Association of America.

#### REVEREND ROUPEN KAYAYAN

The Reverend Roupen Kayayan, a man of great Christian stature, was born in 1886 in an obscure village of Asia Minor near the Black Sea in the vicinity of Yozgad, the third of a family of six boys and one girl. He went to his eternal rest in Paris, France in 1976 at the age of 92.

In his early boyhood, he was in contact with evangelicals and was called to the ministry during his teens which led him ultimately to Anatolia College in Marzevan. While there, he met and married Vartoohi Metzadourian just before the start of World War I. Because of the birth of their first child, they were not deported, but Rev. Kayayan was in great danger and providentially escaped death on three different occasions. After a separation of three years from his family when he was in exile in Erzeroum, he was able to join them in Greece where the American Board of Foreign Missions had been their protector.

His call to the ministry was confirmed by a personal experience of conversion in his earlier years, and manifested itself all through his life. His ministry started in Kokkinia, Greece, where, with some other evangelicals, an Armenian Evangelical Church and School came into being. After five years of pastoring that Church, he was called to work as the visiting pastor of Armenians dispersed on the Continent and in the Islands of Greece. For 13 years he was the itinerary shepherd of both Evangelicals and Apostolics and acted as mediator when there were conflicts among the small Armenian communities. He continued preaching after the years following World War II in the Athens region and some other parts of Greece. He was always aware that his special calling and love for the Bible was not specifically that of "theology" but a more "active" kind of ministry.

In 1959, Rev. Kayayan and his wife retired to France where two of his sons lived and had the joy of participating in the ordination service of his son, the Rev. A. R. Kayayan of Paris, France.

Rev. Kayayan belonged to that generation of Armenians who were active witnesses to and effective makers of that period of our nation's history written in suffering, persecution and also in a living faith.

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#### LIST OF AVAILABLE BOOKS AND RECORDS

(LEGEND: pb = Paper Bound; hc = Hard Cover; \* = In Armenian)

- 93 Arlen, J. Michael. Passage to Ararat (hc). .... 8.95
- 93c Armaghanian, Arsha's World & Yours (hc). .... 4.95
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## **NOTICE FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

of the

**ARMENIAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.**

October, 1979

Dear A.M.A.A. Member:

The Annual Meeting of your Association will be held on Sunday, October 7, 1979 at 1:30 p.m. at the Armenian Presbyterian Church, 140 Forest Avenue, Paramus, New Jersey. It is the cherished hope of the Association that contributing members, like yourself, will make every effort to be present. We sincerely hope you can be with us in the deliberations, exercise your right in voting and hear the reports.

If, however, for any reason you find it impossible to attend, we hope that you will help us in the election of the new Board members by returning the ballot, appropriately marked in the enclosed official ballot envelope. Six (6) members of the Board of Directors are elected each year to replace those members whose terms expire. In pursuance of the requirement of the Association's Bylaws, we are presenting a slate of 12 persons of whom 6 will be elected. These candidates are listed in two groups on the enclosed ballot card.

One group represents nominees submitted by the AMAA and the second group represents nominees of the AEUNA. Your failure to vote puts some other candidate at a greater advantage. Please vote on the basis of the record of the candidates even if you do not know them. We should like to see a 50% return of ballots instead of the past record of about 25%. *Please do exercise your right and vote. It is so important!*

A detailed description of all the nominees is part of this notice. All those appearing on the ballot are persons of prominence, all of whom have indicated they will be happy to serve the Association if elected.

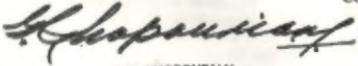
The ballot is in the form of the enclosed card which will be valid only if returned in the enclosed self-addressed ballot envelope with the appropriate information. *Ballots should reach our office by September 28, 1979.* This method of balloting preserves the anonymity of the voter to the tellers of the election, and we hope this will encourage all our members, without exception, to utilize their voting privilege.

We should like to stress that only 3 of each group be voted for. If more than 3 names on each list are marked, the ballot becomes invalid. If less than 3 names are marked on each list, the ballot is considered to be valid however.

The Sunday Annual Meeting will be preceded by a meeting of the Board of Directors on Friday, October 5, at 7:00 p.m. and on Saturday, October 6, 1979 at 10:00 a.m. Further, the Annual Meeting will also be preceded by a banquet at the Armenian Presbyterian Church Social Hall to which all are cordially invited. For details of the scheduled events, please see Page 2 of this notice.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the A.M.A.A.

Cordially yours,



G. H. CHOPOURIAN  
Executive Director



SAMUEL HEKEMIAN  
President